

THE NEWS IN BRIEF.

Weather in Washington.

The weather was intensely cold Dec. 20. The signal office reports between 11 o'clock last night and 7 o'clock this morning show that the temperature was 7 below. At 7 a. m. the thermometer registered 4 below and at 11 o'clock 2 above.

Damage by the Sea.

At Coney Island, N. Y., Dec. 27, the sea swept away the piazza of the Oriental hotel, and carried off about 200 feet of the bulkhead. At the Manhattan beach hotel the view pier remains, but some of the outlying bath houses were smashed into kindling wood.

The Cold and the Storm.

Dec. 29, the thermometer at Cincinnati, O., was 19 below zero; at Detroit, Mich., 16 below; at Fort Wayne, Ind., 20 below, business suspended, houses, cattle and other animals frozen to death in Virginia the snow storm extended all over the state and into North Carolina. All railroads trains delayed.

Storm.

A New York telegram of Dec. 27, says a storm on the New Jersey coast has raged for seventy-two hours. A summer residence at Monmouth Beach is damaged \$40,000. The roads about Long Branch are blocked by snow, and some drifts are ten feet deep. Bulkheads and porches of hotels have been carried away.

Surety Death.

Major J. J. Mahon, of the Indian department, arrived at St. Louis, Dec. 26th, from the Colorado river Indian agency, en route to Washington. He says there is no doubt of the death of Victoria, the Apache chief. Major Mahon saw the famous warlike wife of Sam Carlos, and she was in mourning and had cut off her hair, a sign that her husband is dead.

The New Year at Columbus, Ohio.

Jan. 1, New Year's evening was generally indulged in at Columbus, Ohio, and there was a notable absence of wine or stimulants at private houses, and the disposition was for an unusually large number of ladies to receive together at a well-known residence. Gov. Foster's reception at the executive chamber from 2 to 7 p. m. was largely attended.

Fire.

The table manufactory in New York city, of Brown & Bliss, a five-story brick, was destroyed by fire on the morning of Dec. 29th, so the adjoining buildings, 28, 30, 32 and 34 Cherry street, occupied by various manufacturing firms. All the buildings were owned by Mrs. Simpson, 367 Madison street. The loss is estimated at \$100,000, probably insured.

Terrible Railroad Accident Reported.

Dispatches from Texas reached St. Louis, Dec. 29th, saying reports are in circulation that a terrible railroad accident occurred yesterday on the Texas Pacific road somewhere between Dallas and Marshall, but no information regarding it can be ascertained. The rumor says that the train ran through a bridge and was partially burned and a number of persons killed.

Marriage of a Governor.

A matrimonial announcement has just been made which takes all by surprise who knew either of the parties. Judge Porter, the governor elect of Indiana, will be married on Jan. 5 to Miss Stone of New York. The marriage will take place at the elegant residence of one of the lady's relatives in that city. She is a wealthy lady who has a summer residence at Chataqua Lake.

Costly Fire.

The summer residence of J. A. Keene, of Newport, Rhode Island, was burned on the morning of Dec. 31. Several thousand dollars worth of painting, etc., were saved. Mrs. Keene and family were occupying it. The house and contents were valued at \$100,000; insurance upwards of \$50,000. The inability to get water, owing to the extreme cold, prevented the firemen from working effectively.

Storage Capacity of Chicago.

It appears from the published figures that the total storage capacity in Chicago is 23,762,000 bushels of wheat; 10,435,000 in elevator room, 2,322,000 in vessel and 925,000 steam vessel room, an increase over last year's capacity of 2,000,000 bushels. There are now in store there 14,000,000 bushels of grain against 12,000,000 bushels this time last year. A grain glut similar to that of last spring is improbable.

Frozen Oranges.

A dispatch from Jacksonville, Florida, of Dec. 29, says: "We are having the coldest weather since 1857. The thermometer was 9 above this morning. The orange trees in the city are frozen and it is feared the fruit up the river is badly damaged. About a third of the crop is already gathered. It is not known whether the trees are injured. A dispatch from Sumner county says the oranges are not damaged there. This county is about 100 miles south of this city."

Electric Light.

A Cincinnati, O., telegram of Dec. 26th, has the following: This afternoon books were opened and stock to the amount of \$300,000 was subscribed in a few minutes for the formation of a company to introduce Maxim's electric light in Cincinnati, Covington, and Newport. It is proposed to introduce the lights in manufactories and other places where steam power is used, and ultimately in private houses, by providing engines for generators at convenient points.

Cape Town.

The Boers formed two camps near Patefstoroom on the 17th of December, and on the 20th two hundred mounted Boers and one thousand foot attempted to capture the fort, which was occupied by three hundred soldiers. They advanced to within two hundred yards of the fort, but were repulsed by

shot and shell. Seven insurgents were killed and many wounded. Paul Kruger had a council of war on the 23d, when it was decided to starve the garrison out.

Frozen to Death.

A New Albany, Dec. 26th, telegram has the following: The twin children of William and Fanny Johnson, from to death today. The parents were very poor. Mr. Johnson left home yesterday for East work, leaving his wife and children at home with no fuel. It grew colder in the night, and despite the efforts of the mother to keep them warm with scanty clothes, one perished at three o'clock and the other at 6 o'clock. The destination of the family was not known to the neighbors.

Found Dead.

A little settlement called Twist Hill, some ten miles from Belleville, Ill., was much excited on Christmas morning by the discovery of the dead body of Mrs. Schuster, a widow, lying in bed between two children (girls, ten to fourteen years old, and the dead body of an infant in the shed in the rear of the house. It appears Mrs. Schuster was confined some time during Friday night, and that she placed the baby in an out-house, where it was frozen to death, and she returned to her bed and died from hemorrhage.

The Colored Cadet.

A court martial in the case of cadet Whittaker has been ordered to convene at West Point on Tuesday, Jan. 15. The following is the detail for the court: Brig. N. A. Miles, president of the court; Col. H. A. Marrow, twenty-first infantry; Lieut. Col. Pluckney Lugenbell, first infantry; Lieut. Col. J. M. Brannon, first infantry; Major Lewis Merrill, seventh cavalry; Major E. B. Sumner, fifth cavalry; Capt. B. T. Frack, first artillery; Capt. J. N. Child, tenth infantry; Capt. A. B. Gardner, judge advocate of the court.

The Dublin Trials.

Advices from Dublin of Dec. 31, state that Attorney General Law visited his address to the jury that morning. He spoke for one hour and concluded with a carefully prepared speech. He said he hoped the jury would be true to their consciences and return a verdict satisfactory to the country. Disobedience, he said, must be put down, no matter at what cost. As he resumed his seat there was no manifestation of any kind. A government short-hand reporter was then placed in the witness box to read his notes made at public meetings attended by traversers.

Cold in Chicago.

A Chicago telegram of Dec. 27, says the cold wave which struck there on the morning of that day and Manitoba yesterday sending mercury to forty degrees below, has been growing intensely all day. Although the sun shone brightly to-day for the first time in a fortnight, at midnight the thermometer registered thirteen degrees below and at present rate will reach twenty below before morning. It is by far the coldest spell of the season, but an absence of wind and clear sky make it less trying than weather which is not so severe.

The Weather.

A Chicago telegram of Dec. 29, has the following: The cold weather still continues. At 6 o'clock this morning it was at 15 below and at other points in the Northwest as follows: Detroit, 11; Milwaukee, 10; Winona, 15; St. Paul, 9; Dubuque, 22; Peoria, 10; Davenport, 14; Keokuk, 15; Des Moines, 12. All below zero. The sky is clear and wind moderate, and prospects now are for a gradually rising of temperature. Trains are impeded somewhat, but there are no accidents to property or life yet reported. A good famine is possible if the cold continues. Railroads fail to bring coal as they have heretofore done.

Railroad Accident.

On the morning of Dec. 27, at Charlotte, N. C., a frightful railroad disaster occurred, on the air line railroad, five hundred yards beyond Paw Creek trestle, nine miles from this city. Two freight trains left Charlotte yesterday morning in sections, one about fifteen minutes behind the other. On an up grade, just beyond Paw Creek trestle fourteen cars of the forward train broke loose and stopped after running a short distance. In the rear car were flagman Bob Griffith, of this city, and six passengers, three of which were colored. Though a flagman was sent back, the rear section being on a down grade, could not stop, and ran into the other train. Three passengers were killed and the cars took fire, burning one man alive.

Anniversary Celebration.

The city of Cambridge, Mass., Dec. 28, celebrated the 249th anniversary of its settlement. Early in the morning bells rang and salutes were fired. At 10 o'clock the city government, with invited guests, occupied the stage of Sanders' theater, which was filled. The scholars of the grammar school were also on the platform and assisted in the music. Prominent features of the exercises were remarks by Mayor Hall and a speech by president Elliott of Harvard. Prof. Longfellow addressed the children briefly. Dr. Holmes read a poem of Longfellow written on the reception of an arm chair from the children. In the afternoon Col. Higginson delivered an address.

Spain.

Advices from Madrid, of Dec. 31, state that considerable impression was made by that part of the king's speech at the opening of chambers urging the Cortes to consider the expediency of putting the naval and military resources of the country, and principally the Asiatic and American stations, on a footing more adequate to the necessities of modern armaments. The speech concluded as follows: "With your assistance it does not seem impossible that Spain should once more occupy that position which she occupied until this century. Other nations have conquered positions which they had not before, and it is not too great a thing that we should at last return to what we were."

Indians in Washington.

A Washington advice of Dec. 31, says the Cheyenne river and lower Brule Sioux kept their appointment for another conference at the interior department this morning, and informed Secretary Schurz that they had made

up their minds to accept the terms offered them by the Chicago & North-western and the Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul railways for the right of way through their reservations, but that they wanted to talk the matter over between themselves for several days before signing the agreement. The secretary largely told them they must bring the matter to a compromise way or the other this afternoon, and the conference was accordingly adjourned for a few hours.

Hopeful Business View.

The London "Times" of Dec. 31, says: The year 1880 has been one of solid business in most directions, and of foolish speculation in very few. The gaining of a steady relative parity has been reached, and it may be years before we reach its height. From all appearances both France and the United States are far ahead of us in this direction. On their principal the duration of the time of quiet business activity would seem to depend. The prodigious absorption of capital in public works now going on in France may alone lead to temporary unpleasant results to speculators, but the new year will be begun hopefully, and such is the temper of the stock markets that a still higher range of prices need surprise nobody.

State Trials in Dublin.

A correspondent of the London Times at Dublin, says the first day of the state trials, Dec. 29, has been remarkably gloom and dullness. Those who expected the city would be full of excitement, that thousands would assemble in the streets, and that the court would be besieged by an eager multitude clamoring for admission, were sorely disappointed. There has not been the slightest manifestation of public feeling beyond the gathering of about two hundred persons of the lower classes on the way in the vicinity of the courts. The absence of any sympathy with the cause of insurrection, the proceedings on the part of respectable classes was very significant, and presented to those who remember the O'Connell trial a very striking contrast.

The New Year at Chicago.

A Chicago telegram of Jan. 1, has the following: The weather moderated very decidedly last night and the mercury stood by noon to-day at about thirty-two degrees above zero in sunny places. This brought out the New Year callers in considerable numbers, and the streets during the afternoon presented a spectacle of unusual gaiety, banks and public buildings being closed, while carriages and groups of gentlemen holiday attire took the place of hurrying workmen and business vagabonds and cabs. The weather grew colder toward evening and was quite slipping toward midnight. A sharp condition of temperature prevailed in other points of the Northwest as far as reports have been received.

Financial Statement.

A Washington advice says: There has been marked falling off lately in orders for standard silver dollars. The treasury department has directed transfer of \$2,999,500 gold bullion from the assay office in New York to the Philadelphia mint, for coinage into eagles and half eagles. After this transfer there will remain in the New York assay office about \$61,000,000 bullion more than enough to keep the Philadelphia mint employed for six months coming good evenly. As near as can be estimated at the present time it is thought at the treasury department the public debt statement for the month of December, which will be issued Monday, 31 prox, will show a reduction about the same as the statement for November, which was \$3,000,000. During the month about \$4,000,000 have been paid on account of pensions.

A Floozy Onset.

A Fort Monroe dispatch of Dec. 28, has the following: A disturbance occurred Friday evening Dec. 24, at Smithville, fifteen miles west, between a white man named Dunn and a party of colored men who had met to organize a military company. One of the men caught Dunn by the whiskers and slapped his face, whereupon he drew a single barbed pistol and killed the negro. Dunn then ran into a store and loaded his pistol when a party headed by Dan Cook, with drawn swords, attacked him. He shot Cook dead, after which he secured a butcher knife and cut his way out. A man named Edward Drew was badly cut in the abdomen and will probably die, while others are more or less injured. Dunn gives himself up and is now in jail at Williamsburg. Intense excitement prevails among the colored population.

The Great Storm.

A New York telegram of Dec. 29, has the following: The snow storm of last night and this morning interfered seriously with traffic and greatly impeded travel. The horse cars and stages have doubled up their teams and are running at longer intervals, while pedestrianism is laborious work. Shippers experience much difficulty in getting goods to railroad depots and to steamboat docks. Telegraph communication with Fire Island is severed. The storm Sunday was very violent. The surf broke across the beach between the surf hotel and light house. The pavilion on the ocean side was undermined and one hundred bathing houses washed away. The hotel narrowly escaped. A large ship's cabin and much wreckage washed into the bay. An old hull of a 1,300-ton steamer was washed on the beach. The vessel has not been recognized. No steamer is remembered to have stranded near where the hull lies.

Mill Burned.

The Red Jacket mill, situated about four miles south of Mankato, Minn., was burned between two and three o'clock on the morning of Dec. 31. It was an excellent mill, and the famous Red Jacket flour has always commanded a good market here and elsewhere. The warehouse, by the heroic efforts of the employees, was saved. The mill was owned by Messrs. Hillyer & Bingham. These gentlemen are men who are universally respected, and who have endeavored to bring the mill back its old reputation. They were succeeding, and considering all the disadvantages they have overcome, and the success they could reasonably expect in the future, it is a matter of much regret that the mill should at this time be destroyed. The insurance is much below the loss, being \$9,000 on the mill and

\$1,000 on the stock. The mill cost over \$20,000. The manner in which the fire originated has not yet been ascertained by Mr. Hillyer.

Capture of Murderers.

On the afternoon of July 31st, 1880, a farm laborer named Andrew Huetzel, was brutally murdered by three tramps between Wabashaw and Lake City, who rushed out of the bushes and assaulted him till they believed life was extinct. They then robbed him of all the money he had, some \$40 and \$1.50 lying by the roadside. He was found by a passing farmer who conveyed him to a neighboring house. Here he recovered sufficiently to narrate the story of the tragedy, and soon afterwards died. A party of seven men, organized for the purpose of the miscreants, and got near enough to fire a few shots at them, none of which, however, took effect. They were so closely pursued, however, that they jumped into Lake Pepin and swam for the opposite shore. Three tramp murderers have just been arrested at Quincy, Ill., and recognized. They arrived at Wabashaw in custody Dec. 28, and were lodged in jail to await trial.

Riotous Outbreak.

By way of Denver, Colorado, Dec. 28, it is learned that a very serious disturbance exists at Saco, New Mexico. The authorities refused to arrest the murderer of Conlinger. The editor of the Saco News and others finding no recourse at law have arrested and held by force the sheriff and four others, including the murderer of Conlinger. Rescue of prisoners threatened, and bloodshed is imminent. Request has been made on the military commander of the district troops, and although troops cannot be used as posse comitatus, yet a company has been ordered from Colorado to New Mexico, as means of protection for public property and property of railroad companies. Bodies of men are being armed at Albuquerque and other points in the vicinity, and will go to Sacramento; grave results may be expected. All women and children have been moved out of town. Acting Governor Child doing all in his power to preserve order and secure proper action of law.

New Year's Day at Washington.

A Washington telegram of Jan. 1, has the following: New Year's receptions of 1881 have fully equalled in brilliancy any one city has ever known. The crisp, cold, exhilarating atmosphere and good sleighing gave a novelty which to no other New Year within the memory of the present generation has been known, and added greatly to the enjoyment. The White House has, as usual, been the scene of the greatest interest. The Marine band, as customary, played in the large entrance hall during the reception. The long central corridor was festooned with flags, and farther decorated with flowers and potted plants. The parlors were adorned with flowers and hot-house plants. The programme of the order of reception, as previously published, was strictly carried out. Mrs. Hayes was assisted by Miss Maria Herron of Cincinnati, Miss Wells of San Francisco, Mrs. Elizabeth Thompson, and others. Secretary Evans made the presentations of the members of the diplomatic corps to the President. The largest number of these were assembled to-day that ever appeared here on any one occasion.

The Whittaker Case.

A Washington telegram of Dec. 28th, says, with the exception of Attorney General Devens, all the members of the cabinet were present at that day's session. The Whittaker case was the principal topic under consideration. No definite conclusion was reached and the matter was not disposed of. The impression of cabinet officers on this subject is that the limitation to the effect that Whittaker will be given another chance at West point will prove erroneous. It is thought the case will be finally disposed of in the course of a few days. An argument in writing was recently submitted to the President and secretary of war by Prof. Greener, which contains two alternatives, viz: First—that he be granted a trial by court martial. Second—that he be reinstated at the Academy. The argument in support of the first proposition maintains that the findings by the court of inquiry were but partial, and that the cadet was placed at a great disadvantage in that trial by being compelled to prove himself innocent. Regarding his reinstatement the Professor argues that, owing to his absence from his class while attending the court of inquiry, he necessarily fell behind in his course of studies, and farther that his marks in discipline and military tactics, as shown by the Academy record, are not by law such as to justify expulsion.

Death of Dr. Chapin.

Rev. Dr. Chapin died at his residence in New York City, Dec. 26. A New York telegram of Dec. 27, has the following: The friends of Rev. Dr. Edwin H. Chapin have known for some time that there was no hopes for his recovery, but the intelligence of his death will be received with regret. Dr. Chapin was born in Union Village, Washington county, Dec. 29, 1814. His parents were natives of New England. While he was in boyhood they removed to Bennington, Vt. He received an education at the Bennington seminary and then returned to this State beginning to study for the bar in a lawyer's office in Troy. Without completing his legal studies he soon removed to Utica, where he became assistant editor of the Magazine and Advocate, then the leading journal of the Universalist denomination. In 1834 when 23 years of age he was ordained in Utica to the ministry. He immediately began preaching and accepted a call to become a pastor of the Independent Christian church at Richmond, V., a society composed of both Universalists and Unitarians. In 1840 he accepted the charge of a Universalist church in Charleston, Mass. Six years later he accepted a call from the School street Universalist church, Boston, becoming the colleague of Hosea Ballou. In 1848 Dr. Chapin came to this city to assume the pastorate of the Fourth Universalist society, which he has ever since retained. Among his friends and parishioners was Morace Greeley, whose funeral services took place in his church. Dr. Chapin leaves a wife, two sons and a daughter.

The Great Storm in the Northwest.

Dec. 29, Telegraph Superintendent

Point of the St. Paul & Sioux City division of the C. & N. W. line was storm-torn. James, Conductor Mont of the St. Paul & Sioux City division, should have been in Sioux Falls, for a time at 11 a. m. Tuesday Dec. 29, but was 10 hours late. The cause of this delay was snow piled in his way by the blizzard. Near Crystal Lake it blocked the train, and Mont, with the rest of the train, was forced to shovel through and attached to the engine. A battle of two hours released the train, the engine and cars entering to St. Paul were more or less delayed while the St. Paul & Sioux City division of the C. & N. W. line, and the Hastings & Dakota division of the C. & N. W. roads were completely blocked. Trains and previously been discontinued on the Hastings & Dakota, but the blizzard reported light, and hopes had been entertained up to the storm of Dec. 29. The train kept the working parties to draw out and now the cars are filled full of snow, and several days must elapse with favorable weather before the track can be cleared. To the west the storm was much less severe, comparatively little trouble was encountered by either the Northern Pacific or St. Paul & Manitoba lines. Trains on the St. Paul & Duluth were running nearly on time. All trains from Chicago, on both the river and M. division of the C. M. & St. P., and the eastern division of the C. St. P. & O., were from three to nine hours late in arriving at St. Paul, having been held to await trains at Chicago, and losing time on the way by ice cold. On the night of Dec. 29 the storm cloud had disappeared, the wind died away and temperature moderated to about zero, it being that the backbones of both the yard and rail snap were broken.

"James, Is That You?"

Women are timid creatures, and let be left in a house alone at night, as when Mr. Gallagher went away for home, leaving his wife with only an ignorant servant, she was very much worried, and readily harkened to the voice of an agent who called just after Gallagher had gone around the corner, and wanted to sell her a machine which would prevent burglars from getting into the house. She bought three. These placed at the front and back doors were so arranged that, when the door was opened, a hammer would strike down from above and knock down a person trying to enter. A third contrivance of different pattern was placed on the stairs and another at the front window. Gallagher unexpectedly returned late that night, and attempting to enter the front door, got a blow on the nose that knocked him down the step into the street. He was both surprised and annoyed at the circumstance, and utterly unable to understand it, tried the door again. Same result. He then thought somebody was behind the door trying to assassinate him, and getting up very mad, ran around to the back door to get in that way. Then he got a thump that sent him back into the willow barrel, and he was terribly cross when he got up. He grabbed an ax, and as he opened the door again, struck with it. But he hit nobody, and got another knock-down. Then he went and got a policeman, so that one could tackle each door, and one be sure to get in; but after both had enjoyed three knock-downs they met and compared notes, and decided that two men must be in the house. They then tried the front window, and raising it, a deluge of icy water from a hose arranged to bring it flew upon them. But they braved that and got in. Then they searched the lower part of the house, but could find nobody, and meantime Mrs. G., upstairs, heard them, and nearly died of fright. They started upstairs, Gallagher first, and near the top a staff fixed on a pivot, rolled under Gallagher and hurled him backward, and he went to the bottom, taking the policeman with him. They both yelled, but Gallagher yelled the loudest, and his wife recognized his voice and his favorite oath. Her courage returned. She went to the head of the stairs and cried: "James, is that you?" James was painfully hurt and awful mad then, and the policeman was trying to get back the breath Gallagher had squashed out of him. "No, cried James, 'it's not me; it's some other fellow. Jim Gallagher was never knocked down seventeen times in my night." But she knew it was he, explained matters. And then Gallagher gave the policeman \$10 to say nothing about the matter, and the officer retired, and then Gallagher jawed his wife two hours, and the next day went some miles to overtake the man who sold the machines and kicked the life nearly out of him. He admits that the thing would be dreadfully discouraging to a burglar, though.—Boston Post.

Curious Petition by Sixteen Maiders

A curious petition was addressed in 1733 to the governor of South Carolina by sixteen maidens of Charleston. It ran thus: "The humble petition of the maids whose names are under written, whereas, we, the humble petitioners, at present in a very melancholy disposition of mind, considering how the bachelors are blindly captivated by invading our liberties, and like wise fine to be levied on all such bachelors shall be married to widows. The disadvantage to us maids is that widows, by their forward carriage, snap up the young men, and have the vanity to think their merit beyond what is a great imposition on us, we ought to have the preference. This is humbly recommended to your excellency's consideration, and hope you will permit no further insults. And we poor maids, in duty bound, will ever pray."

Born Englishmen and Americans can buy their own magazines abroad a little cheaper than they can at home.